PTO/SB/21 (08-00) 9 Abbase Whe a plus sign (+) inside this box -> + Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE e Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Application Number 10/655,339 TRANSMITTAL Filing Date 09/04/2003 **FORM** First Named Inventor Lynn W. Schultz (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) Group Art Unit 3671 **Examiner Name** Total Number of Pages in This Submission Attorney Docket Number 7007-CON ENCLOSURES (check all that apply) After Allowance Communication to Assignment Papers Fee Transmittal Form (for an Application) Appeal Communication to Board of Fee Attached Drawing(s) Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to Group Amendment / Response Licensing-related Papers (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Petition After Final Proprietary Information Petition to Convert to a Affidavits/declaration(s) Status Letter Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revocation Other Enclosure(s) Extension of Time Request Change of Correspondence Address (please identify below): Transmittal of Supplemental IDS Terminal Disclaimer within three months of filing or Express Abandonment Request Request for Refund before receipt of first office action Information Disclosure Statement CD, Number of CD(s) Certified Copy of Priority Remarks Document(s) Applicant believes that all appropriate fees are hereby paid, but authorization is hereby given to Response to Missing Parts/ charge Deposit Account No. 18-0882 for any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment. Incomplete Application Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR Andrew T. Pham 1.52 or 1.53 SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT Firm

Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren s.c.

Andrew T. Pham Individual name

Signature

Date January 6, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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Andrew T. Pham Date: <u>January 6, 2004</u>

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

GROUP ART UNIT: 3671

EXAMINER: UNKNOWN

For: CUSHION STOP AND
METHOD FOR ABSORBING
BIDIRECTIONAL IMPACT OF
SNOW PLOW BLADE
TRIPPING

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 January 6, 2004

TRANSMITTAL OF SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF FILING OR BEFORE MAILING OF FIRST OFFICE ACTION (37 CFR 1.97(b))

NOTE: "An information disclosure statement shall be considered by the Office if filed: (1) within three months of the filing date of a national application; (2) within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application; or (3) before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever event occurs last." 37 CFR 1.97(b).

NOTE: The "filing date of a national application" under 37 CFR 1.97(b) has two possible meanings. Where the filing is a direct one to the United States Patent & Trademark Office, the filing is defined in 37 CFR 1.53(b) as "the date on which: (1) A specification containing a description pursuant to § 1.71 and at least one claim pursuant to § 1.75; and (2) any drawing required by § 1.81(a), are filed in the Patent and Trademark Office in the name of the actual inventor or inventors as required by § 1.41." 37 CFR 1.97(b)(1). On the other hand, an international application that enters the national stage occurs when the applicant has filed the documents and fees required by 35 U.S.C. § 371(c) within the periods set forth in § 1.494 or § 1.495. 35 U.S.C. § 371(c) requires the filing of the following: (1) the national fee; (2) a copy of the international application, unless already sent by the International Bureau, and an English translation if filed in another

language; (3) amendments under PCT Article 19, with a translation into English if made in another language; (4) an oath or declaration; and (5) a translation into English of any annexes to the International preliminary examination report, if such annexes were made in another language. 37 CFR 1.97(b)(2).

IDENTIFICATION OF TIME OF FILING THE ACCOMPANYING INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application or before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever event occurs last. 37 CFR 1.97(b).

- **NOTE:** "No certification or fee is due when the filing is made within the above time period. It is advisable to ensure that no Office action has been mailed if the disclosure statement is delayed until after three months from filing.
- NOTE: "An information disclosure statement will be considered to have been filed on the day it was received in the Office, or on an earlier date of a mailing if accompanied by a properly executed certificate of mailing under 37 CFR 1.8, or Express Mail certificate under 37 CFR 1.10. An Office action is mailed on the date indicated in the Office action." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).
- NOTE: "The term 'national application' includes continuing applications (continuations, divisions, continuations-inpart) so three months will be measured from the actual filing date of an application as opposed [sic] to the effective date of a continuing application." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).
- NOTE: "An action on the merits means an action which treats the patentability of the claims in an application, as opposed to only formal or procedural requirements. An action on the merits would, for example, contain a rejection or indication of allowability of a claim or claims rather than just a restriction requirement (37 CFR 1.142) or just a requirement for additional fees to have a claim considered (37 CFR 1.16(d)). Thus, if an application was filed on Jan. 1 and the first Office action on the merits was not mailed until six months later on July 1, the examiner would be required to consider any proper information disclosure statement filed prior to July 1." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).

WARNING: "A petition for suspension of action to allow applicant time to submit an information disclosure statement will be denied as failing to present good and sufficient reasons, since 37 CFR 1.97 provides adequate recourse for the timely submission of prior art for consideration by the examiner." Notice of July 6, 1992 (1141 O.G. 63).

Dated: January 6, 2004

Reg. No. 54,879

Tel. No.: (414) 298-8160

Andrew T. Pham

Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren, s.c.

SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY

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Milwaukee, WI 53202

CUSTOMER NO. 22922

7007-CON

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Under the Paperwork Reduction are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number. Substitute for form 1449A/PTO Complete if Known JAN 0 9 2004 Application Number 10/655,339 SUPPLEMENTAL Filing Date 09/04/2003 INFORMATION DISELOS First Named Inventor Lynn W. Schultz STATEMENT BY APPLICA Group Art Unit 3671 (use as many sheets as necessary) **Examiner Name**

Attorney Docket Number

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			U.S. PATENT [DOCUMENTS	
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Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number 10/655,339

Filing Date 09/04/2003

First Named Inventor Lynn W. Schultz

Group Art Unit 3671

Examiner Name

Attorney Docket Number 7007-CON

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³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.